TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, August 2, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended July 28 totaled an estimated 18.1 billion ton-miles, 8.3 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative traffic volume for the first 30 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 532.2 billion ton-miles, 15.3 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended July 28 totaled 406,267, up 6.6 percent from last year, and 1.4 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 17.0 percent in the East, 6.6 percent in the South and 0.3 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 12 of the 21 commodity groups showed decreases, although coal loadings, which continue to reflect the effect of heavy stockpiling, were up 21,976 cars (20.4 percent). Also, motor vehicles and equipment increased by 2,788 cars (18.6 percent). Thirteen of the 21 groups increased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended July 21 totaled 50,748 cars, up 11.1 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 87,668 trailers and/or containers, 10.2 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 29 weeks of the year was 1,459,105 cars, 16.8 percent higher than last year, and 2,513,874 trailers and/or containers, up 16.5 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 7/28/84:

	Loadings in Week ended July 28, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	25,104	D	2,992	10.6	D	3,073	12.2
Other farm products	2,943	D	1,288	30.4	D	561	19.1
Metallic ores	19,666	D	644	3.2	I	1,577	8.0
Coal	129,605	I	21,976	20.4	I	3,844	3.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,011	I	1,739	15.4	I	237	1.8
Nonmetallic minerals	12,891	I	729	6.0	I	1,064	8.3
Grain mill products	9,805	D	1,498	13.3	I	101	1.0
Food and kindred products	10,606	D	1,085	9.3	D	212	2.0
Primary forest products	14,094	D	582	4.0	I	636	4.5
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,291	D	744	9.3	I	285	3.9
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,646	D	616	4.0	I	241	1.6
Chemicals and allied products	23,742	I	981	4.3	I	469	2.0
Petroleum products	4,884	I	249	5.4	I	75	1.5
Stone, clay and glass products	11,222	D	140	1.2	D	4	0.0
Coke	4,752	D	461	8.8	D	374	7.9
Metals and products	9,399	I	1,022	12.2	I	404	4.3
Motor vehicles and equipment	17,747	I	2,788	18.6	D	544	3.1
Waste and scrap materials	8,877	I	889	11.1	D	53	0.6
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,354	D	835	10.2	I	439	6.0
All other carloads	58,495	I	5,742	10.9	I	896	1.5
LCL traffic	133	D	130	49.4	D	1	0.8
Total Cars Loaded	406,267	I	25,100	6.6	I	5,446	1.4
Corresponding week of 1983	381,167						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (30 weeks)	11,801,096	10,552,816	I 11.8
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
29 weeks ended July 21	514.1	445.0	I 15.5
Week ended July 28	18.1	16.7	I 8.3
30 weeks cumulative	532.2	461.7	I 15.3

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